

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

They are saying that this is a "news" story to avoid certain regulations. Hogwash! Sinclair is a big contributor to the Republican party and the Bush Administration and this is nothing more than a partisan effort on their behave to attact John Kerry in the final days of the Presidential campaign.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves, our airwaves, free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line or for their own political purposes and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.